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the BRIAR LINE

FOUNDERS DAY 1977

Founders Day, celebrated at Sweet Briar on October 5, was attended by over 100 alumnae, on campus for the Alumnae Association's annual meeting. Two special guests who came were Frances Murrell Rickards of Norfolk, a member of the first graduating class, and Anne Gary Pannell Taylor, former president of the college.

This year's Alumnae Award, which recognizes alumnae for outstanding service to the college in a volunteer capacity, was conferred jointly on Martha von Briesen '31 and Jacquelyn Strickland Dwelle '35.

Miss von Briesen, who served as director of public relations at Sweet Briar from 1942 to 1974, was cited by President Whiteman especially for her work in the research and editing of *The Letters of Elijah Fletcher* (University of Virginia Press, 1965) and her role in the establishment of the Mary K. Benedict Scholarship in 1945, which has provided valuable financial aid to more than thirty students.

Mrs. Strickland has served as a member and then president of the Executive Board of the Alumnae Association, and has just completed her second term as a member of the Board of Overseers. At Sweet Briar there is a fund established in her honor by her husband and three children, one of whom (Susan Dwelle Baxter '64) is also a Sweet Briar graduate. President Whiteman said of her, "With all her characteristics of leadership, perhaps she is remembered most for her sense of fun and gaiety that caused her to be known affectionately by the alumnae as 'Our Sweet Briar of Youth.'

Two earlier recipients of the award were on hand—Elizabeth Prescott Balch '28, of Utica, New York, and Mary Huntington Harrison '30, of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Elizabeth Medaglia '69, Assistant U.S. Attorney assigned to the District of Columbia Appellate Court, gave the Founders Day address. She told the students about some of the hostilities awaiting a young woman entering a male-dominated field such as hers but assured them that the way a woman is treated by her male colleagues is, finally, "up to her."

Following her address, faculty, students, alumnae, and friends, led by the Amherst County High School Band, marched to the top of Monument Hill for the traditional wreath laying at Daisy's monument.

There was one further ceremony—dedication of the Sweet Briar Bells in the cupola of Gray dormitory. The bells, that first rang out at graduation last June, were made possible by gifts from George Harrison of Baltimore, the Class of '16 and '74, and individual donors. On hand for the occasion was Mr. Harrison, the father of Holly Harrison '79, who made the largest single contribution toward the bells.

It was a clear and brilliant fall day and the joyous ringing of the bells announced a good beginning to another academic year.



Alumnae Award winners Martha von Briesen '31 and Jacquelyn Strickland Dwelle '35 with President Whiteman at Founders Day Convocation.



Senior Class President Mary Page at memorial service on Monument Hill.



President Whiteman, Mr. George Harrison, and Chaplain Carter dedicate Sweet Briar's bells.

NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

Thomas C. Allen, Visiting Lecturer in English
B.A., Texas Christian University
M.A., Rice University

Richard W. Ault, Lecturer in Economics
A.B., West Virginia University

Susan Bandes, Instructor in Art History
B.A., New York University
M.A., Bryn Mawr College

Robert H. Barlow, Dean of Student Affairs
B.A., Wesleyan University
M.S., University of Hartford

Jefferson Beaubier, Assistant Professor of Anthropology
A.B., Stanford University
M.A., University of Hawaii
M.P.H., Ph.D., University of Virginia

The Reverend Sallie A. Carter, Chaplain
B.A., Mercer University
M.Div., Yale Divinity School

Nancy E. Church, Admission Counselor
A.B., Sweet Briar College

Jennifer L. Crispin, Assistant Professor of Physical Education
B.S., University of Massachusetts
M.S., Smith College

William H. C. Evans, Technical Director in Theatre Arts
B.A., Transylvania College
M.A., Kansas University

F. Rodman Ganser, Assistant Professor of Spanish
B.A., Colgate University
M.A., Ph.D., University of Wisconsin

Margaret J. Harvey, Assistant Director of Career Planning
A.B., Sweet Briar College
M.Ed., University of Virginia

Sandra Herring, Instructor in Mathematics
A.B., Sweet Briar College
M.S., University of Virginia

Deborah S. Hubble, Admission Counselor
A.B., Sweet Briar College

Bonnie Jackson, Instructor in Physical Education and Director of Aquatics
B.A., Yale University

Cynthia M. Kendree, Admission Counselor
A.B., Sweet Briar College

Carolyn McKee, Administrative Intern
B.A., Mills College
M.A., University of Michigan

Diane Moran, Instructor in Art History
B.S., University of North Dakota

Jeffrey McCormick, Visiting Assistant Professor of Biology
B.A., University of Colorado
M.S., Ph.D., University of Connecticut

Rosalie Murphy, Visiting Assistant Professor of English
A.B., Ursuline College
M.A., Ph.D., University of Detroit

Beatrice P. Patt, Dean of the College
B.A., Hunter College
M.A., Ph.D., Bryn Mawr College

Beth Schnitman, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs
B.S., M.Ed., University of Hartford

Anne Swartz, Assistant Professor of Music
B.A., Wilson College
Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh

WINTER TERM 1978

Winter Term at Sweet Briar will offer alumnae, as well as students, a series of exciting possibilities for study in January 1978. Visiting lecturers will be anthropologist Donald C. Johanson and pop culturist Warren Susman, both of whom have proved to be stimulating lecturers in previous Sweet Briar visits.

Johanson, who is curator of physical anthropology and director of scientific research at the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, has been co-leader of archaeological expeditions in the Hadar Region of Ethiopia's Afar Depression since 1973. He made international headlines in 1974 with his discovery of Lucy, the 3-million-year-old fossil remains of near-man, and has made subsequent discoveries of like importance to the search for man's origins and evolution.

Johanson fascinated his Sweet Briar audience last April when he presented the Robin S. Cramer Lecture on his Ethiopian expeditions. His course in January will be on "Human Origins in Africa." In addition, he will give one or two evening public lectures. Johanson's visit is made possible through a gift from Mr. and Mrs. John A. Ewald, Jr. (See Gifts Support College Programs, p. 4).

Susman, who is professor of history at Rutgers, will give a course on "History and the Film." Susman has been a popular speaker at Sweet Briar, both when he spoke on "Science Fiction and American Culture" at last year's January Forums and in 1975 when he spent the Winter Term as Mary Reynolds Babcock Visiting Professor of American Studies. His visit is made possible by the Sue Reid Slaughter Fund.

Fear of the future, so vividly brought out by Bronowski's "The Ascent of Man," is the germinal idea behind an ambitious new course developed by nine Sweet Briar faculty members, headed by Professor of Government Milan Hapala. "Alternative Futures for the World" is an interdisciplinary course designed to help students think about the future and become aware of how present policies influence future conditions and events. Teaching strategies will include lectures, computer exercises, simulations, games, movies, student reports, and papers.

Other offerings range from European study tours to

basic science for teachers, from figure drawing to Fortran programming, from the literature of disillusionment to twentieth-century art.

If you are interested in starting off the new year with a mind-stretching Winter Term course, write to the Dean, Sweet Briar College, Sweet Briar, VA 24595, for a course listing and information on fees and housing arrangements.



Warren Susman



Donald Johanson excavating a fossil horse jaw (courtesy of National Geographic).

ON CAMPUS

Several honors and prizes were announced at Opening Convocation. Named Emilie Watts McVea Scholars as the top-ranked students of their respective classes were **Katherine C. Powell '78** of Halifax, Virginia; **Susan C. Andrews '79** of Norfolk; and **Catherine K. Tucker '80** of Elkhart, Kansas. Miss Powell also received the Manson Memorial Alumnae Scholarship awarded an "upperclass student of high academic standing who shows qualities of leadership and makes a constructive contribution to student life."

Janet Rakoczy '78 of Medford Lakes, New Jersey was named the Mary Kendrick Benedict Scholar as the "upperclass student of high academic standing and personal integrity who has shown a purpose for service in her college experience."

Louise Day Pritchett '80 of Dallas, Texas was awarded the Everingham Rickards' and Captain Garrett V S. Rickards Memorial Scholarship as "the sophomore who best demonstrates potential for leadership, academic excellence, and community involvement."

Elizabeth Wood '78 from Anchorage, Kentucky was named the Alumnae Daughter Scholar, awarded to the alumna daughter who has demonstrated "the traditions of sound learning and social responsibility which have characterized the alumnae of the college since its founding."

Lisa C. Hite '79 of Louisville, Kentucky received the Juliet Halliburton Burnett Scholarship for "demonstrated leadership and academic ability" and her interest in the "preservation of our threatened environment."

Suzanne Jones Cansler (Mrs. Charles L., Jr.) '63 has been named the new chairman of the Alumnae Fund. Mrs. Cansler, named in 1974 as one of the Outstanding Young People of Atlanta, has set a goal of 65% participation for the 1977-78 fund year.

The Winter Term Theatre Production Workshop performance of "Marat/Sade" was the subject of "Production Gallery" in the Spring 1977 issue of *Southern Theatre*. Throughout the month of January, four guest professionals joined numerous students and members of the college faculty and community who devoted their time exclusively to the production, with morning acting workshops, afternoon stagecraft workshops, and evening rehearsals daily. The January 1978 Workshop will follow the same format in its production of "She Stoops to Conquer."

The following faculty members have been granted sabbatical leaves. **Ralph Aiken**, professor of English, for the academic year at Oxford University, to study the relations between women and literature in England between 1660 and 1900; **Barbara Blair**, associate professor of chemistry, for the academic year, for advanced study in her field; **Aileen Laing**, associate professor of art history, for the winter and spring terms, to attend the Study Centre for the History of the Fine and Decorative Arts in London.

In addition, **Jacqueline Browning**, assistant professor of economics, has been granted a leave of absence for the winter and spring terms to serve as a visiting lecturer and to audit courses in statistics and econometrics at UCLA.

The **Lucile Umbreit Music Scholarship** has been established through gifts of alumnae, faculty and friends who wished to honor Miss Umbreit on her retirement last June after 37 years of teaching music at Sweet Briar.



Sophomores Francie Root, Flo Rowe, and Diane Dilworth were among several students who were fascinated by old yearbooks at a recent party for alumnae relatives given by the Alumnae Office.



Benedict Scholar Janet Rakoczy '78.



Mary Harris '79, newly elected member of the Tau Phi honor society.



McVea and Manson Scholar Katherine Powell '78.

Sweet Briar's studio art faculty—Professor **Loren Oliver**, Associate Professor **Raymond Twiddy**, and Visiting Lecturer **Gary M. Alter** were all represented in a Faculty Exhibition in Babcock Hall from September 25 to October 14.

Both Twiddy and Oliver have exhibited in state, regional, national, and international selected group exhibitions. Twiddy also had a one-man exhibition of prints and drawings at Washington and Lee University from October 10 to 28, and will have one at Queens College of the City University of New York from October 31 to December 3.

Alter's photographs have been included in exhibits in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts (travelling fellows exhibit) and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (Virginia Photographers 1975). He exhibited also at the "Open Door Show Space 1974" and at the McGuffey Art Center, 1977, in Charlottesville, Va.

Carrie Griscom '77, has received an invitation from the Bronx Museum of Art to exhibit in the First International Biennial Drawing Exhibition, which will include exhibitors from 56 countries. Carrie, a graduate student at Ohio University, also participated in a special summer workshop for advanced printmakers at the University of Notre Dame.

ENROLLMENT UP

Sweet Briar's enrollment is up this year with 255 new students and 410 returning students, bringing total enrollment for the 1977-78 academic year to 665, an increase of 34 students over last year. Not included in this total figure are 45 students who are studying off-campus for one or two semesters.

Members of the new freshman class come from 34 states, the District of Columbia, and 13 foreign countries. Of the 241 freshmen, 49.8% graduated from public schools and 50.2% from independent schools. Five are national merit scholars. Of 12 new students who entered with advanced standing, 4 transferred from liberal arts colleges, 2 from junior colleges, and 4 from universities. There are two special exchange students, one from France and the other from Scotland.

An unusual number of the entering students have alumnae connections. According to Mrs. Nancy Baldwin '57, Director of Admission, there are 22 alumnae daughters, 4 alumnae granddaughters, 25 sisters of alumnae or present students, 18 alumnae cousins, 9 alumnae nieces, and one alumna great-niece. "There's even one alumna goddaughter," she reported.

A new feature of the opening day program on Sept. 8 was an orientation session for parents. Parents of more than 200 entering students were on hand to learn more about the classes and nonacademic activities that their daughters will engage in during the coming year. President Whiteman, members of the faculty, the administration, and student officers led these discussions.

Orientation week concluded with Opening Convocation, held on the evening preceding the first day of classes. Dean Beatrice P. Patt, who gave the convocation address, told the entering freshmen that "education is an activity, both pleasurable and painful, involving constant, passionate, participation." Warning the student not to become "the perpetual yea-sayer, the assiduous and indiscriminate note-taker," Dean Patt challenged her audience "to learn something of many fields, to cut across artificial barriers and distinctions, to break down and to transcend categories, to move from mathematics to literature, from physics to music, from anthropology and history to art."



OPENING WEEK: SGA President Lisa Wray leads the seniors in song at Convocation; typical first week scenes included over-packed cars and students puzzling over course selections.



NEW BEARINGS

BY CAROLYN MCKEE

Orientation week has given me, a new staff member, an excellent introduction to life at Sweet Briar College. After driving in an antique automobile across the continent from a drought-stricken coast to what appeared to me to be the gorgeous, tropical, bug infested land of central Virginia, I very much needed orienting.

What impressed me most—after the heat and the pervasiveness of insects—was the sense of community at Sweet Briar. Everyone I met was friendly, eager to help, offering, if not air-conditioning, at least cool drinks and bug-repellent. My first day on campus I left my pocketbook in one of the common rooms. I had the same sinking feeling I had this summer when, having left my wallet on a city bus, I knew I would spend the next two days cancelling and reapplying for credit cards, driver's license, insurance identification. The feeling was dispelled when someone called to say she had found the pocketbook. I knew what Carrie Ruda '78, meant when she spoke to freshmen about the confidence and trust which the honor system ensures at Sweet Briar.

I was impressed, too, by the ways in which this sense of community enhances academic life. Orientation week is itself a fine example of the kind of individualized attention students can expect here. It also provided examples of the talented teachers

freshmen can expect. Dean Patt, even while talking about such mundane things as note-taking, captivated freshmen with the strong sense of the educational purpose of the college she conveyed. I personally have re-discovered what a joy it is to be able to stroll over to the library, or book store, or take in a movie (free, at that), without fighting city traffic.

The freshmen themselves are serious about both their education here and their future beyond Sweet Briar. One student shook her head in comic understatement (or perhaps she was shaking off a moth?) at a letter read at the Honor System workshop. "It reminded me that this is not a summer camp," she said. The letter came from a student who wanted to confess that she had cheated. Before Dean Patt's discussion of study skills, Wendi Wood and Bobin Bryant talked excitedly to me about the general course of study in languages and international relations they were planning at Sweet Briar. Both hoped to spend a year abroad and to serve in winter term internships in Washington.

Fortunately, community spirit and dedication to scholarship do not mean isolation, either socially or intellectually. In several discussions and workshops during the week, students were told about work-study internships and career-planning services available to them. Several students with whom I spoke were already giving their futures serious thought. Ginia Zenke told me she wanted "to design a house from top to bottom, inside and out." When I naively asked whether she wanted to do this simply for her own house, or as a

profession, her response was quick and to the point. "Oh, as a profession, definitely! I'm not going to sit around having kids all the time . . . That comes later."

Students are thinking about the world beyond the college not only in terms of jobs, later, but also in terms of social life, now. Freshmen don't seem worried about social isolation. They have already had several exchanges with Washington and Lee. Campus leaders and club officers were on hand during the week to talk to new students about the variety of social events and activities open to them at the College.

The underlying theme of the week of discussions and workshops was beautifully captured by Dean Patt, in her image of the incomplete quadrangle of the Sweet Briar campus. It symbolizes, she said, "leading out," the "unfolding," which is at the root, etymologically and philosophically, of education. The first week is already unfolding to what will be for students and faculty, as well as for me, if I survive bees, gnats, and chiggers, an exciting year.

Carolyn McKee is an administrative intern in a program designed to introduce women to administration in higher education. The program is sponsored by 15 women's colleges and funded by the Carnegie Corporation. Ms. McKee has been assigned to the Development and Public Information Offices at Sweet Briar College. She is a graduate of Mills College and a candidate for the Ph.D. at the University of Michigan.

GIFTS SUPPORT COLLEGE PROGRAMS

Anthropologist Donald C. Johanson and ethologist Jane Goodall and her husband Derek Bryceson will teach at Sweet Briar during the current academic year, thanks to the generosity and vision of **Jane Roseberry Ewald '52** (Mrs. John A. Ewald, Jr.) and her husband, who made a gift to Sweet Briar to bring scholars of international reputation to the college.

Johanson, who so fascinated his Sweet Briar audience when he gave one of the Robin S. Cramer Lectures last April, is returning in January to give a Winter Term course on "Human Origins in Africa" (See Winter Term, p. 2).

Then in April, Goodall and Bryceson will come for the first of four successive years to give an intensive two-day lecture and seminar program. Goodall, whose work with primates in Tanzania is well known, has also visited Sweet Briar before, when she lectured on infant-child development in the chimpanzee, in April 1976. Bryceson, who is the only white member of the Tanzanian Parliament, is director of the renowned game preserve there. His interests range from the politics of developing nations to a totally different area—elephants.

According to Mrs. Ewald, her gift is meant as "seed money, to attract other gifts." She said, "I hope that other alumnae will support their pet areas of interest at the college, because there are all sorts of strengths at Sweet Briar that could be enriched."

"I should hope that no one who has graduated from Sweet Briar is going to lie down in darkness after graduation," she added. "If you are not alive to the needs of your college, you are not going to be alive to the needs of your community or anything else."

The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded Sweet Briar a \$195,000 challenge grant to support the college's interdisciplinary programs, including the European Civilization and Asian Studies programs, the humanities phase of the Environmental Studies Program, and the major in American History and Literature.

This is a three-for-one challenge grant, which means, according to Mrs. Elizabeth Bond Wood, director of college development, that "all gifts from new donors and all increases from regular donors can count toward meeting the challenge of \$1 for \$3, unless the gift is otherwise designated."

The Chemistry Consortium of the Tri-College Center of Virginia is a pioneering cooperative chemistry program which began offering courses this fall to students in the three participating colleges—Sweet Briar, Randolph-Macon Woman's College, and Lynchburg College.

The development of a cooperative curriculum was made possible by two grants—one from The Camille and Henry Dreyfus Foundation, Inc., and the other from the National Science Foundation.

The Dreyfus Foundation grant of \$27,627 is a one-year award made in December 1976 to provide the funds needed for the planning and initial implementation of the chemistry curriculum.

The NSF grant of \$39,000, awarded in June 1977 is a three-year award to enable the participating institutions to evaluate and modify the program. It will also be used to buy laboratory equipment which will be shared by the three chemistry departments.

The program was developed in answer to low advanced chemistry course enrollments, a consequent decrease in the number of staff members, and the increased cost of necessary instrumentation and library holdings. By pooling faculty, equipment, and other resources, the schools are able to keep their liberal arts orientation intact while providing advanced work in chemistry of the highest quality.

The Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges announced in August that Sweet Briar College would receive \$119,000 as its share of last year's fund-raising efforts.

The VFIC, which binds together twelve of the oldest private colleges in Virginia, raised over \$1,600,000 last year. The Foundation celebrated its 25th anniversary in September.

The George M. Peppard Foundation, at the request of Mrs. Peppard has established a scholarship in memory of its founder, George Matthew Peppard. The scholarship honors his three granddaughters, all of whom are current Sweet Briar students—Leslie Meriwether Lewis Anderson '78, Helen Peppard Lewis '79, and Hillary Herndon Lewis '81.



Jane Goodall

SPLASHDOWN!

When Sweet Briar College students plunged into the new academic year this fall, they had the added excitement of taking a swim in a big and beautiful new pool. The Elizabeth and Charles Prothro Natatorium, long awaited by the Sweet Briar community, had a preseason opening on August 25th for Sweet Briar faculty and staff, and was in full operation for the opening of classes.

Begun in November of 1975, but dreamt about since the 1930's, the pool's construction was made possible by a challenge grant from Elizabeth and Charles Prothro and the Perkins Foundation. Sufficient funds were raised—over \$1 million—for an outstanding facility.

The Prothro grant was a two-to-one matching grant, which means that every dollar contributed by the college and its friends was matched by two dollars from the grant. Alumnae contributed \$180,000, parents of alumnae \$51,000, faculty, staff and students, \$12,000; other friends, \$3,800. Foundations and corporations contributed almost \$62,000, of which the Kresge Foundation's gift of \$50,000 was the largest single contribution.

Bonnie Jackson, new aquatics instructor, a former coach of the Yale Swim Club and herself a winner of a Connecticut State Swimming Championship says, "It's a terrific pool. I like it better than Yale's." Jackson is in charge of the swimming program at Sweet Briar. Competitive meets with other colleges in the area have already been scheduled, and a varsity swim team is already hard at work preparing for their first competition.

Among the pool's outstanding features are

- The 25-meter length which conforms to the international standard adopted by the American Swimming Coaches Association and used in Olympic competitions. The pool has six lanes and holds 250,000 gallons.

- The two high-quality diving boards and stands

- Excellent guttering system which minimizes wave action.

- Good ventilation which controls high humidity (sometimes a problem in indoor pools)

- Up-to-date pool cleaning system.

- Spacious deck and skylights creating a comfortable environment.

- Spectator gallery and office affording excellent visibility of the whole pool

- Beautifully landscaped terraces overlooking tennis courts.

- Remodelled locker facilities for men and women.



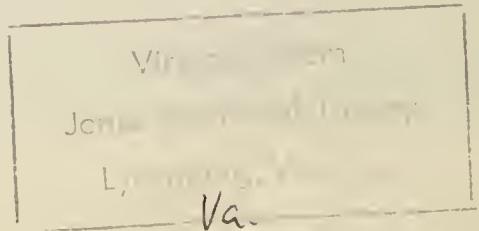
Sweet Briar's long-awaited pool, now in full operation.

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